

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims in this application.

Claims 1-16 (canceled).

17. (previously presented) A ski including a kick-enhancing covering, the ski comprising:

an upper surface having a portion to which a ski boot is to be fastened;

an underside surface including a kick zone opposite to the portion to which the ski boot is fastened, and extending slightly in front of and slightly behind the portion to which the ski boot is fastened;

a recess in the underside surface forward of the kick zone;

a fixing plate disposed in the recess and secured in a forward portion thereof; and

a band or strip equipped with a skin, ski wax or waxless kick-enhancing covering limited to the kick zone;

the band or strip extending forward and being retained in the recess between a rearward portion of the fixing plate and the underside surface of the ski.

18. (previously presented) A ski as claimed in claim 17, wherein the fixing plate is secured to the ski by means of an eccentric locking mechanism or adhesive, or is fastened to the ski with at least one screw, a screw-nut connection, or rivet arrangement.

19. (previously presented) A ski as claimed in claim 17, wherein the fixing plate is provided externally with a glider covering.

20. (previously presented) A device for affixing to a ski a band or strip equipped with a kick-enhancing covering and comprising an engagement block mountable in the ski which comprises:

a top portion,
at least one housing portion which has at least one
engaging hole therethrough, and
a retaining piece with at least one engaging lug
insertable into said engaging hole to receive and form
retaining engagement with the at least one housing portion,
the retaining piece including means for fastening thereto
a forward portion of the band or strip.

21. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim
20, wherein the engaging hole is so dimensioned that when the
engagement block is mounted in the ski, the hole extends
through the ski from an underside to an upper side.

22. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim
20, wherein the engagement block has two engaging holes for
engagement with engaging lugs on retaining pieces.

23. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim
21, wherein said engaging hole and engaging lug each have at
least one curved portion.

24. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim
23, wherein when the engagement block is mounted on the ski,
the curved portion of the engaging hole extends in a curve
upwards from an underside of the ski and in a forward
direction of the ski.

25. (previously presented) A device as claimed in claim
20, wherein the engagement block has at least one housing
portion which forms said hole, said housing portion, when the
engagement block is mounted in the ski, extending from an
upper side of the ski through the ski to an underside.

Claims 26-28 (canceled).

29. (previously presented) A fitting for use with a ski
as claimed in claim 17, wherein the fitting comprises a
retaining piece having means for engagement with an end
portion of a band or strip which has a kick-enhancing

covering, and the retaining piece has at least one bolt for insertion into a fixing hole in a ski, the bolt having an end portion designed for locking the retaining piece to the ski.

30. (previously presented) A fitting for use with a device as claimed in claim 20, the fitting comprising a retaining piece having a means designed for engagement with an end portion of a band or strip which has a kick-enhancing covering, and the retaining piece having two curved engaging lugs designed for insertion into and engagement with an engagement block mountable in a ski.

31. (previously presented) A fitting as claimed in claim 29, wherein said means comprises at least two bendable fixing hooks arranged at the rear edge of the retaining piece, designed to penetrate through the band or strip.